

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to any paper(s) indicated above, and is responsive in any other manner indicated below.

PENDING CLAIMS

Claims 1-4, 6-7, 10-12 and 14-20 were pending, under consideration and subjected to examination in the Office Action. Appropriate claims have been amended, canceled and/or added (without prejudice or disclaimer) in order to adjust a clarity and/or focus of Applicant's claimed invention. That is, such changes are unrelated to any prior art or scope adjustment and are simply refocused claims in which Applicant is presently interested. At entry of this paper, Claims 1-4, 6-7, 10-12 and 14-23 will be pending for further consideration and examination in the application.

ALLOWED CLAIMS

Claims 14-20 have been allowed in the application, as indicated within the "Allowable Subject Matter" section on page 3 of the Office Action. Applicant and the undersigned respectfully thank the Examiner for such indication of allowable subject matter.

'101 REJECTION - USEFUL, CONCRETE AND TANGIBLE RESULT

Claims 1-4, 6-7 and 10-12 have been rejected under 35 USC 101, based on an allegation that such claims fail to provide a useful, concrete and tangible result. Applicant traverses, but respectfully submits that appropriate ones of the rejected

claims have been rewritten and include a further useful, concrete and tangible result which is expected would satisfy the Examiner's preference. Additionally, added dependent claims 21-23 add still further useful, concrete and tangible result features/limitations to independent claims 1, 6 and 10, respectively. Based upon the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the '101 rejection are respectfully requested.

If a situation arises where the 101 rejection is not overcome regarding independent claims 1, 6 and 10 and is the only remaining issue blocking allowance, the Examiner is herein requested to telephone the Undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. area telephone number of 703-312-6600, for discussion of possible amendments to move the application to allowance.

ALL CLAIMS IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE

In view of the fact that all rejections have been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that all presently pending claims are now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance with respect to the present application is respectfully requested.

EXAMINER INVITED TO TELEPHONE

The Examiner is herein invited to telephone the undersigned attorneys at the local Washington, D.C. area telephone number of 703/312-6600 for discussing any Examiner's Amendments or other suggested actions for accelerating prosecution and moving the present application to allowance.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

It is respectfully submitted that any and all claim amendments and/or cancellations submitted within this paper and throughout prosecution of the present application are without prejudice or disclaimer. That is, any above statements, or any present amendment or cancellation of claims (all made without prejudice or disclaimer), should not be taken as an indication or admission that any objection/rejection was valid, or as a disclaimer of any scope or subject matter. Applicant respectfully reserves all rights to file subsequent related application(s) (including reissue applications) directed to any/all previously claimed limitations/features which have been subsequently amended or cancelled, or to any/all limitations/features not yet claimed, i.e., Applicant continues (indefinitely) to maintain no intention or desire to dedicate or surrender any limitations/features of subject matter of the present application to the public.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims listed above as presently being under consideration in the application are now in condition for allowance.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR '1.136. Authorization is herein given to charge any shortage in the fees, including extension of time fees and excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 501.43163X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Based upon all of the foregoing, allowance of all presently-pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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